

04We're all Shocked0

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To: VEATCH, L.

From: [REDACTED]

06 MAR 93

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MAR 12 '93

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

Subject: We're all Shocked

at the FCC's stance that cartoons are not educational. I've learned many things from cartoons.

1) You make rabbit stew by throwing a live, screaming rabbit into a pot of boiling water.

2) If a man eats too much spinach, his judgement of women will be clouded.

3) If an entire order of brontosaurus ribs ^{is} placed on a tray on the side of your car, it will turn over.

4) If you want to blow up the Roadrunner, never obtain your dynamite from a company named Acme because it will explode in your face before you can throw it.

5) Gravity only works if you step off a cliff into thin air and look down. If you don't look down, you may keep walking.

Geez, I don't understand the FCC's position on this issue.

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WTSX
96.7 FM
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Nov 12 '95

FEDERAL COMM. COMMISSION
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1490 AM

WDLC

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3/7/93

Dear Congressman Markey

As a radio broadcaster of some 41 years, with management association for with these above stations for 40 years, I totally agree that television fulfill their obligation to provide educational programming to children, but with one frat, that radio be added to the rule and both undertake the task of eliminating the serious deficiency in the pronunciation and pronunciation of the many simple words that are butchered by literally all on-air. In fact, those deficiencies have spread like a virus about the population of this country. When the six and figure salaried news anchors and talk show hosts, and 90% of them, who cannot properly pronounce the numerals, then something has gone astray in our education system and compounded by the broadcasting industry.

For example the numeral 20, is spelled TWENTY. Which apparently is pronounced T-WENTY. The middle part of the word is went. Yet 99% of Americans say TWUNNEY OR TWONTY. They say thirteen with pronouncing the T, yet they say THIRDY. Forty through ninety are similarly mispronounced. Over 50% of radio personnel and the public do not properly pronounce the letter "W". They say "DUB-VA-YUH" instead of DOUBLE-YOU. A double "U" constitutes the letter W by putting two "you's" together.



I was taught that in Sept. of 1923 when I entered kindergarten. And there are dozens of other every day words and contractions that are mispronounced.

The fault is an education system that sometime in the late 30's and 40's literally eliminated elocution, diction and phonics in the curriculum. My awareness of it came about in 1953 when I started hiring personnel to staff WDLC. I must admit that the speech and communication course I took in the Spring of 1961 created the awareness. When I went into semi-retirement at the end of 1985 I began a more intensified study that brought to my conclusions I have brought it to the attention of major broadcast organizations who administer the field but are not inclined to do something about it.

Since my late wife, I have 104 years in radio broadcasting, all of them but one serving communities in New York, New Jersey and Penna. I consider it a responsibility to do something this aberration in our education. I have all the research necessary to help obliterate this aberration of our language and through the electronic media bring some "corrections" to our speech. I am prepared to turn over all my information to your office. I am sending a copy of this letter to our Education Secretary and the Chief of the Mass Media Bureau of the F.C.C.

Sincerely,
Oscar Eben

P.S. If you see Congressman Ben Gilman, an old friend, give him my best wishes